

AUGUST 24, 1964

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CPYRGHT

UPI-92

(VIET NAM--REACTION)

WASHINGTON--THE STATE DEPARTMENT TODAY DEPLORED STUDENT RIOTS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH VIET NAM, DECLARING THAT THEY HAMPERED PROSECUTION OF THE WAR AGAINST COMMUNIST GUERRILLAS.

A STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN, ROBERT J. MCCLOSKEY, DECLINED HOWEVER TO SAY WHETHER THE U. S. FELT THE OUTBREAKS WERE COMMUNIST INSPIRED.

MCCLOSKEY SAID IT WAS "TOO EARLY" TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBLE "MOTIVATIONS" BEHIND THE STUDENT RIOTS BECAUSE THE SITUATION WAS "NOT CLEAR AT THIS TIME." FOR THAT REASON, HE ADDED, HE DID NOT WANT "TO CATEGORIZE THEM IN ANY WAY."

WHEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON A PAPER PREPARED BY A MEMBER OF THE CIA'S BOARD OF ESTIMATES, WILLARD MATTHIAS, IN WHICH SERIOUS DOUBT WAS EXPRESSED ABOUT THE ABILITY TO BEAT THE COMMUNIST IN VIET NAM AND IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO HAVE "SOME KIND OF NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT BASED UPON NEUTRALIZATION," MCCLOSKEY SAID:

"STUDIES AND ANALYSES OF THIS KIND ARE FREQUENTLY WRITTEN WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT. SUCH A PAPER IS NOT NOR DOES IT PURPORT TO BE A STATEMENT ON POLICY ON ANY OF THE SUBJECTS WHICH IT DISCUSSES."

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ADD 1 VIET NAM--REACTION, WASHINGTON (UPI-92)

MCCLOSKEY SAID THE CIA DOCUMENT HAD NEVER EVEN BEEN DISCUSSED BY "THE U.S. INTELLIGENCE BOARD, THE VIET NAM TASK FORCE NOR ANY PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE OR DEFENSE."

WHEN QUESTIONED ABOUT THE STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT OF PRESIDENT NGUYEN KHANH, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT "THE UNITED GOVERNMENT FULLY RECOGNIZES THE NEED FOR NATIONAL UNITY IN SOUTH VIET NAM AND IS, THEREFORE, SUPPORTING THE KHANH GOVERNMENT AS THE BEST MEANS OF BUILDING SUCH UNITY AT THE SAME TIME THAT THE WAR EFFORT IS BEING PROSECUTED. OBVIOUSLY, ANYTHING OF A DIVISIVE NATURE IS NEITHER IN THE INTEREST OF THE VIET NAMESE GOVERNMENT NOR ITS PEOPLE."

WHEN ASKED TO STATE EXACTLY WHAT WAS U.S. "POLICY" TOWARD A "NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT" IN VIET NAM, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REFERRED REPORTERS TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S STATEMENT EARLY THIS MONTH AT THE TIME HE ASKED AND RECEIVED A STRONG CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION BACKING UP ANY MILITARY ACTION HE MIGHT DECIDE NECESSARY IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA. JOHNSON ASKED FOR AND WAS GIVEN AUTHORITY TO TAKE "ALL NECESSARY ACTION TO PROTECT OUR ARMED FORCES AND TO ASSIST NATIONS COVERED BY THE SEATO (SOUTHEAST ASIA TREATY ORGANIZATION) TREATY."

JOHNSON ASSURED CONGRESS THAT GIVEN THIS AUTHORITY, HIS ADMINISTRATION NEVERTHELESS WOULD "CONTINUE READILY TO EXPLORE ANY AVENUES OF POLITICAL SOLUTION THAT WILL EFFECTIVELY GUARANTEE THE REMOVAL OF COMMUNIST SUBVERSION AND THE PRESERVATION OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE NATIONS OF THE AREA." HE WARNED AGAINST RELATING THAT STATEMENT TO THE SECTION ON VIET NAM IN THE CIA PAPER, WHICH MADE NO MENTION OF GUARANTEES AGAINST COMMUNIST SUBVERSION.

ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS WERE OBVIOUSLY CONCERNED LESS THE CIA STUDY PAPER BECOME A POLITICAL FOOTBALL IN THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.

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AUGUST 24, 1964

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CPYRGHT

BY STEWART HENSLEY

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

WASHINGTON, AUG. 24 (UPI)--ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS ARE DISTURBED BY THE POSSIBLE POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS OF A CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (CIA) DOCUMENT WHICH CONTAINS AN IMPLICATION THAT A COMPROMISE WITH THE COMMUNISTS MAY EVENTUALLY BE NECESSARY IN THE SOUTH VIET NAM POWER STRUGGLE.

TOP-LEVEL OFFICIALS ARE ATTEMPTING TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE CIA REPORT--WHICH DECLARES AT ONE POINT THAT VICTORY OVER THE COMMUNIST IS DOUBTFUL AND THAT A "NEUTRALIZATION" DEAL MAY BE CALLED FOR--DOES NOT REPRESENT U.S. POLICY.

THE 45-PAGE PAPER, PREPARED BY WILLARD MATTHIAS OF CIA'S BOARD OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES, ATTEMPTS TO ASSESS DEVELOPMENTS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SOVIET-AMERICAN POWER RELATIONSHIP.

IT WAS WRITTEN EARLIER THIS YEAR. IT HAS BEEN CIRCULATED AMONG VARIOUS GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WITH A NOTATION THAT IT HAD "GENERAL APPROVAL" OF THE CIA BOARD, WHICH HAD, HOWEVER, MADE NO ATTEMPT TO REACH COMPLETE AGREEMENT ON EVERY POINT OF IT.

THE POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE REPORT ARE OBVIOUS, INASMUCH AS REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE BARRY M. GOLDWATER IS CHARGING THE JOHNSON ADMINISTRATION WITH A "NO-WIN" FOREIGN POLICY.

ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SAY THEY WANT TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE PAPER HAS NEVER BEEN PRESENTED TO OR CONSIDERED BY PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL OR THE TOP LEVEL U.S. INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE BOARD.

OFFICIAL SOURCES DISCLOSED THE EXISTENCE OF THE DOCUMENT OVER THE WEEKEND WHEN THEY LEARNED IT HAD BEEN OFFERED FOR PUBLICATION AS A MAJOR OUTLINE OF AMERICAN POLICY. THEY ASSERTED THAT THIS WAS NOT TRUE AND THAT THE IDEAS WERE, AS ONE OFFICIAL PUT IT, "ONLY ONE MAN'S OPINION."

ASIDE FROM THE VIET NAM NEUTRALIZATION REFERENCE, THE DOCUMENT APPEARED TO BE A ROUTINE SUMMARY OF THE OBVIOUS CHANGES BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE NUCLEAR STALEMATE BETWEEN RUSSIA AND THE UNITED STATES, COMPLICATED BY THE RED CHINESE-RUSSIAN IDEOLOGICAL CONFLICT.

THE PORTION OF THE DOCUMENT ON SOUTH VIET NAM WHICH APPARENTLY TOUCHED A SENSITIVE ADMINISTRATION NERVE SAID:

"THE COUNTER-GUERRILLA EFFORT CONTINUES TO FLOUNDER, PARTLY BECAUSE OF THE INHERENT DIFFICULTY OF THE PROBLEM AND PARTLY BECAUSE (THE LATE PRESIDENT NGO DINH) DIEM'S SUCCESSORS HAVE NOT YET DEMONSTRATED THE LEADERSHIP AND THE INSPIRATION NECESSARY. THERE REMAINS SERIOUS DOUBT THAT VICTORY CAN BE WON, AND THE SITUATION REMAINS VERY FRAGILE. IF LARGE-SCALE U.S. SUPPORT CONTINUES AND IF FURTHER POLITICAL DETERIORATION WITHIN SOUTH VIET NAM IS PREVENTED, AT LEAST A PROLONGED STALEMATE CAN BE ATTAINED. THERE IS ALSO A CHANCE THAT POLITICAL EVOLUTION WITHIN THE COUNTRY AND DEVELOPMENTS UPON THE WORLD SCENE COULD LEAD TO SOME KIND OF NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT BASED UPON NEUTRALIZATION."

PRESIDENT JOHNSON AND SECRETARY OF STATE DEAN RUSK HAVE CONTENTED REPEATEDLY THAT NO COMPROMISE SOLUTION IS POSSIBLE UNTIL THE COMMUNISTS IN SOUTH VIET NAM ARE BEATEN AND RED CHINA AND NORTH VIET NAM DEMONSTRATE THEY INTEND TO "LEAVE THEIR NEIGHBORS ALONE."